



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 26.34 Thursday, August 20, 2020

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Bailey turns himself in to face four murder charges

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

At about 10 p.m., Sunday, following an intensive manhunt, Raymond Lee Bailey walked into the Bay County Sheriff's office and turned himself in to face charges of murdering four people in Sumpter Township on Saturday morning.



Bailey

Sumpter Township Police Chief Eric Luke said his officers were already on the way to the Bay City area, 130 miles north of Sumpter, as part of the search for Bailey, 37. Sumpter police took Bailey into custody and brought him back to Sumpter.

He currently is lodged in the Huron Township Police lockup pending determination of charges by the Wayne County Prosecutor's office. Huron Township handles emergency dispatch and

lockup for Sumpter.

"We want to acknowledge and thank the local, state, and federal agencies who've assisted us in the investigation and apprehension," Chief Luke said in a Monday morning news release.

On Saturday at about 12:37 p.m., Aug. 15, Sumpter police responded to a 911 call in the 24000 block of Martinsville Road and found the bodies of two males and two females, all in their 30s, apparently dead from gunshot wounds.

One neighbor told reporters that she had heard a half-dozen gunshots earlier, which she believed to be coming from the woods. She said she thought someone was target practicing.

Chief Luke said a Crime Scene Response Team from the Michigan State Police Forensic Division was requested and arrived shortly after to assist.

Detectives identified 37-year-old Raymond Lee Bailey of Sumpter Township, the ex-boyfriend of one of the females, as



Laura Tanner



Sarah Tanner



Neil Sampson



Forrest Sampson

a suspect and obtained information that he had fled north, possibly heading to the Upper Peninsula.

A short time later, detectives were made aware that he had allegedly confessed to the killings to several people via telephone and texts, Chief Luke wrote in an early news release.

Detectives were able to begin tracking him via his cell phone as he fled north and located his vehicle abandoned at an Applebee's in Bangor Charter Township near Bay City. Police impounded the

vehicle but couldn't find Bailey.

Sumpter Police had worked through the night with authorities in that area to attempt to find him, and a statewide BOLD was active.

Bay County Sheriff Troy Cunningham told *The Detroit News* that about 4 a.m. Sunday, a woman reported seeing a six-foot-tall male walking the streets and then ducking into the brush when he saw traffic coming.

(continued on page 17)

School Board delays opening of school until Sept. 14 to ensure safety

By Rosemary K. Otzman
 Independent Editor

The Van Buren Public Schools will not open on Tuesday, Sept. 1, as announced at its regular board meeting on Aug. 10.

Following a 20-minute special school board meeting via Zoom on Aug. 13, the official beginning of school was delayed until Monday, Sept. 14.

The vote of the seven-member board was five in favor, nobody against, and two abstaining because their family members work under contract for the district and their votes would be conflicts of interest.

Voting in favor were president Amy Pearce, secretary Darlene Gerick, and trustees Calvin Hawkins, Keith Johnston, and Kelly Owen. Abstaining were vice president Susan Featheringill and treasurer Simone Pinter.

School Supt. Pete Kudlak said the board

talked about coronavirus precautions at its meeting the previous Monday and he thought all the preparations could be done by Sept. 1.

The board had set a special meeting for Aug. 18 to check on the progress and if they weren't going to be ready in time, they could start classes remotely and then go in person, Supt. Kudlak said.

He said administrators brainstormed ideas and called in Aaron Lang, president of the Van Buren Education Association.

They came up with a plan to delay the opening until Sept. 14.

"We are very comfortable that everything will be in place by the 14th," Kudlak said.

He said the protocols will be in place when the kids come in on Day One.

A change in the starting date required an agreement with the union to change the contract. He said all the other contracts

follow the contract set with the VBEA.

Kudlak said the end of the school year had been June 11 and now is June 15. He said with the changing of days in between Sept. 14 and June 15, the teachers will have one extra work day.

He said students who were coming in person and remote students will all start on Sept. 14.

Kudlak said a letter of understanding with VBEA was signed by Human Resources Director Abdul Madyan and VBEA president Aaron Lange on Aug. 12. This is what the board approved on Aug. 13.

Kudlak said there were people on the Zoom meeting site that wished to give comments and ask questions and he would hear the statements and give answers to questions later. He said they are required to give their names and note who they are – parent or teacher – along with an email address for an answer.

Some of the entries did not carry identifications. In most local Zoom meetings, those who wished to comment or ask questions could participate orally.

The agenda item called "Questions and

Comments from the Audience (on agenda items only)" had no comments at this meeting. The comments are scheduled before the action item was discussed.

After the board voted to delay school, Kudlak mentioned there were two comments and then said, "The rest are on agenda items and I will answer them later."

He did answer parent Angela Mears' question about whether the first days will be half days as previously scheduled. He said now they will start with full days not half days.

Board president Pearce said there were 112 people at the Zoom meeting.

Kudlak skipped along over 13 questions, mentioning some of the issues and saying he would answer them all the next day.

He said his Aug. 12 session was via Zoom instead of the Live Facebook he had the previous Wednesday. He said this Zoom session will be posted on the district website.

Kudlak said Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are also posted on the website and, "It's a great place to check."



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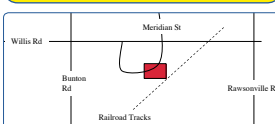
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Virginia Belinski resigns from Sumpter Township Planning Commission

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

Virginia Belinski's resignation from the Sumpter Township Planning Commission was accepted by the township board at its regular, in-person meeting on Aug. 11.

Clerk Esther Hurst said Belinski has moved out of the township and is living Up North.

Supervisor John Morgan said they should get a plaque, "something nice," to give to Belinski for her years of service. He directed Deputy Supervisor Karen Armatis to make sure Belinski gets the plaque.

Supervisor Morgan appointed Bart Patterson to fill the vacancy and the board unanimously approved the appointment. His term is until Jan. 12, 2021.

Patterson was invited to introduce himself and he said he has lived in the township for 24 years and has been a licensed builder for 37 years, first being licensed when he was 17 years old.

He said he told the supervisor he would be glad to help the township in any way and to give him a call if he could help.

In other business at the Aug. 11 meeting, the board:

- Heard Trustee Don LaPorte request a credit card purchasing policy be set up for the police department. He asked a committee be formed including department heads and the financial director and a policy be set up in line with the township's purchasing policy. This should be brought back to the board for review, he said;

- Heard Trustee Tim Rush tell the story of Jo Gardner being stung by 25 bees at Sherwood Park the previous Saturday. They called 911 and the police were there in three minutes, followed by the fire fighters and EMS. Gardner thanked the first responders and said the many stings were toxic and she was going into shock and they stabilized her. She said it lasted a couple of days. She was working on the Butterfly Garden and now she's back working on the project;

- Heard Sharon Pokerwinski said they need more volunteers for the parks and they need to get new signs to announce dogs can't go in the water because the former signs disappeared;

- Heard Donald Basham complain about two businesses and the apartments at the corner of Savage and Bemis roads, since there is no handicapped parking, problems with entries from the streets, and the apartments need wider staircases for safety. He said he asked about this last year and he got no answers. He said the ordinance officer told him it was none of his business. Supervisor Morgan said they



This surveillance tape picture taken at the election precincts at the Sumpter Community Center at 8:19 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 4, shows township Trustee Tim Rush, a candidate in the election that just ended, with a long roll of paper he had removed from the voting machine he had pushed into the hallway. Toni Clark had witnessed the activity and tried to file a police report, but none was written by the officer who responded. Clark requested the surveillance tape through the Freedom of Information Act. This activity is one of the things that inspired the request for an election recount.

could look into it. Trustee Rush said the ordinance officer had looked into it in the past, but they could have him take a second look. "We'll get some answers for you," Supervisor Morgan said. Basham also said he didn't think a shop that repaired appliances was essential and it shouldn't be open;

- Heard Eric Partridge comment that it is hard to find postings of bids being sought for township projects. He said he found one because Ken Kunka let him know. He said there were no public postings for bids on the new newspaper of record and he's been checking. "I don't know where to find them," he said of the legal notices. Deputy Supervisor Armatis called out a response from the back of the room that could not be heard on the video recording of the meeting. Partridge said he knows one project was over the \$10,000 cost that required bids. There were comments back and forth and Partridge left the podium where he had been speaking into the microphone. "Point of order," called out Trustee Rush. "We can't have this at a board meeting... intimidating that woman seated there in the audience..." Supervisor Morgan agreed, "If you want to stay here, you have to calm down." Partridge left the meeting shortly thereafter; and

- Heard Mary Ban praise the police and fire departments who "are there when you need them." She noted Sumpter is the 52nd safest community in Michigan. She also again asked about cutting the brush along the side of the road to increase visibility and safety. She also asked the township to paint a marker on the sloping cement at the back door of township hall to avoid people falling.

Treasurer Ken Bednark and Trustee Matt Oddy were absent and excused from the meeting, leaving a quorum of five at the board table. At least 11 other individuals were in the audience, making a total of at least 16 in the meeting room.

Gov. Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-154 allows alternative means to conduct government business during the COVID-19 pandemic and Executive Order 2020-160 limits statewide indoor gatherings to 10 people or less.

Court Watching

Judge Parrott's pretrial continued to Sept. 25 at 35th District Court

On Friday, Judge James A. Plakas at 35th District Court in Plymouth set 8:30 a.m. Sept. 25 as the time to continue the pretrial of 34th District Court Judge David Parrott on a misdemeanor charge of domestic violence.

Judge Plakas noted the parties will submit a stipulated Order of Interview of Parrott's ex-wife, Lianne Clair.

The charge against Judge Parrott was brought at 35th District Court in Plymouth because Parrott is a sitting judge at the 34th District Court in Romulus. Parrott has taken a leave of absence from his court and failed during the Aug. 4 primary at an attempt at reelection.

Parrott is charged with assaulting his live-in girlfriend on Feb. 8 at his condo in Van Buren Township. His defense attorney is Heather KS Nalley of Howell.

At an earlier session, Judge Plakas approved the prosecution's motion and ordered the unsealing of records of a prior divorce deposition transcript.

Letters

Voting violation alleged in Sumpter election

To the editor:

Federal laws were broken and professional ethical standards were not upheld in the Aug. 4, 2020 primary race in Sumpter Township, Michigan. There are numerous pictures of violations by Sumpter Township Michigan board of trustees member Tim Rush, a Republican candidate for re-election in the November 2020 general election.

At approximately 8:16 p.m. on election night Aug. 4, 2020 he was seen removing and then folding the computer printout sheet that he retrieved from a voting machine and then disappearing and then leaving the senior center. Where that computer printout tape went is unknown. The deputy clerk of Sumpter Township, Michigan, was also present and appeared to say nothing to Trustee Rush, a person that should not have been allowed to tamper and remove items from the voting machine or even allowed to be in that building.

It is a violation of federal law and punishable by imprisonment to tamper in any way with election machines. If proven that Mr. Rush violated federal laws, professional and ethical standards, he should be disqualified to run for Sumpter Township Board of Trustees in the November 2020 general election.

Elected precinct delegate
Ronald Barrington Robinson
Sumpter Township

OPINIONS

Editorial

McNamara stands by his police to handle Egypt case

Members of Egypt Covington's family have pressed the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees to turn the investigation of Egypt's murder over to the Michigan State Police to solve. Letters to the board have increased in intensity over the last week.

At Tuesday's Zoom meeting of the board, they again demanded the board turn the case over to MSP, while attacking Trustee Paul White and Clerk Leon Wright for comments they have made on the issue.

Supervisor Kevin McNamara, who is in charge of the township, including the public safety department, stood behind his professional law enforcement officials and refused the demand they give up the case to MSP.

"We do not comment on active police investigations," Supervisor McNamara said, adding the MSP has 100% of the file on the case, as do the investigators for the Wayne County Prosecutor's office.

"We are not moving to a basement in Lansing with 25 other cases," McNamara said.

He said the township is not going to let this case go cold and, "No, we are not giving this thing up." When pressed, he said he would call Lt. Robert Weimer of the MSP as family members insisted.

We applaud Supervisor McNamara for standing with his professional law enforcement officers who are actively pursuing the solving of this case. Everyone wants to find Egypt's killer.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

The murders of the four young people in Sumpter Township last Saturday have affected many people besides their immediate families. So many went to school with them at Belleville High School.

My son is a friend of the father of the two males who were killed. He said he has known the young men from when they were born. He is devastated and doesn't know how to comfort their parents.

"What can I say?" he asked.

And, such it is. How do you comfort parents who have lost their only children – in a moment of sudden violence?

Who knows what really happened on Saturday? The suspect must be presumed innocent although there are reports of him confessing to the shootings.

Belleville council members said they are praying for Sumpter residents and keeping them in their thoughts because of this tragedy – as are we all.

We wish for swift justice in this case.

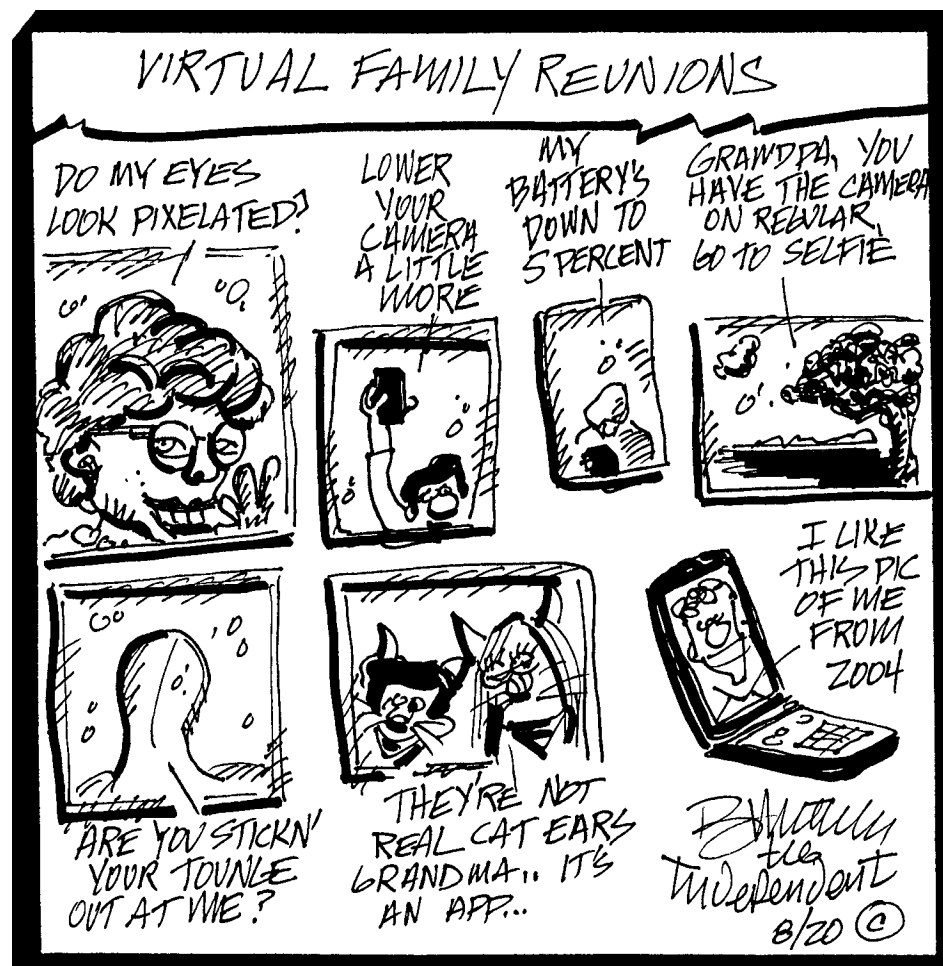
A GoFundMe account had raised \$28,000 to bury the four, as of Monday.

When members of the Belleville City Council were discussing the citywide yard sale, that they later approved for Sept. 12 and 13, Councilwoman Kelly Bates said she travels to Jerome each weekend to care for her in-laws.

She said there is a special yard sale each year along Michigan Avenue, from Detroit to Chicago, and she saw it and noticed not many people were wearing masks.

Councilman Ken Voigt said the farther away they get from Wayne County, the fewer wear masks. He said he was in favor of the annual yard sales in Belleville and he was

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



sure people would follow social distancing and use masks.

Councilwoman Bates said she wanted to have the yard sales, too, because residents are looking to make some money because of these hard times.

Just before voting to accept two donated sculptures at Monday's city council Zoom meeting, Fire Chief Brian Loranger added his comment about the Upsidedown Man being donated by Justin Juriga. Chief Loranger said in 2020 our lives have been turned upsidedown and so this would be a very good sculpture to have.

Someone suggested calling it the "2020 Man." Juriga had donated this to the city eight or ten years ago and there was some concern about putting it up at Victory Park, as first considered, because it was made out of sheet metal and youngsters might try to climb on it and hurt themselves. It was stored away and now needs to be repainted.

Councilman Ken Voigt who presented that sculpture and one purchased by the Arts Council from Tim Elden, suggested they could put the two at Horizon Park since that's where more adults go.

He said the Hands Held High sculpture the Arts Council donated to the city stands in Horizon Parks gets a lot of attention. He said Reg Ion put a mask on that sculpture and took pictures of it.

"Public art is fun," Voigt said. "Hopefully it will draw more people to downtown..."

Last I heard, Tim Elden was storing his sculpture of recycled rebar in his garage. The Arts Council purchased it and then had to decide where to put it, he said.

When discussing Doane's Landing, city manager Tracey Schultz Kobylarz said the decorative fence has been installed to the end of the city property and DPW Director Rick Rutherford is talking to the condo owners next door because there is a gap.

At Tuesday's Zoom meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, Clerk Leon Wright said the ballots for the Nov. 3 election are due to arrive at this office on Sept. 19 with Sept. 25 as the targeted mailing date to voters. Voters should look for it in their mailboxes the week of Sept. 28.

He said the U.S. Postal Service said voters should mail their ballots back at least 14 days before the Nov. 3 election to make sure they get there on time. Clerk Wright said he recommends dropping them off in the box in front of township hall. He said he has ordered an additional box for ballots only from the state but he doesn't know if it will get here on time.

He said Van Buren Township currently has 7,500 requests for absentee ballots.



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BELLEVILLE-AREA INDEPENDENT

Established Dec. 3, 1994 First Edition Jan. 5, 1995

The Belleville-Area Independent is a free, weekly newspaper published each Thursday in Belleville, MI.

Editor: Rosemary K. Otzman
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Advertising Manager: Bob Mytych

Sports Editor: Bob Mytych

Bookkeeper: James Otzman

Production Manager: James Otzman

Office Manager: Janet Millard

Business Manager: Gerald McKelvey

Editorial Cartoonist: Bob Mytych

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Letters

Here's what will be at the Food Truck Rally

To the editor:

The BHS Senior Party PTO would like to invite everyone to our Food Truck Rally for the Class of 2021 on Thursday, Aug. 27, from 4-8 p.m. in the Belleville High School Parking lot.

We have nine confirmed trucks coming with a variety of entrees, snacks, desserts, and drinks. The food trucks are all donating 10% of their proceeds to the Senior Class Party.

Due to the pandemic, traditional fundraisers such as Homecoming will not take place this year, so we have tried to find different ways to raise funds that will be possible during this difficult time. Our trucks take credit or cash.

Confirmed trucks include:

- Good Eats, featuring burgers, fish sandwiches, loaded fries, chicken tenders, and coney dogs.
- Great Lakes Confections, featuring mini doughnuts, lemonade, and whipped coffee.
- Jamerican Grill, featuring jerk chicken, jerk pork, fried plantains, pineapple coleslaw.
- JR's Concessions, featuring elephant ears and funnel cakes.
- Kona Ice, featuring shaved ice.
- Market Fresh Deli, featuring deli sandwiches, pulled pork, corned beef, chicken sandwiches, tenders, and wraps.
- Motor City Sweet Treats, featuring ice cream, milkshakes and cotton candy.
- Nacho Average Tostada, featuring tacos, tostadas, nachos and taco salads.
- Pork N' Bones, featuring pulled pork, ribs, kielbasa, and smoked brisket.

Please note we will also be having a can and bottle drive at this time if you would like to donate a bag to the Senior Party Fund.

Masks and social distancing will be required per the Michigan Executive Order. Patrons will be asked to get their food and go to one of the nearby parks or to their homes to ensure we comply with the 100-person gathering limit. Hope to see you there!

BHS Senior Party PTO

Andrea VanDenBergh, president

Beth Mann, vice president

Amy O'Brien, secretary

Susan Rizzo-Melidosian, treasurer

Fireworks to attack police? It's an I.E.D.

To the editor:

Re: New law idea to peacefully disassemble unpeaceful assemblies

I know in this type of political climate you want to avoid taking sides. I read in the news a protest used fireworks to attack police.

If this were Iraq, we wouldn't use

"fireworks" we would use the term I.E.D. I feel like if we don't make a distinction soon between peaceful nonsense and using something that contains a white-hot accelerant to deliberately injure people and force their will upon them, then it's going to turn into terrorism-with-a-valid-permit.

Synonyms for forcing your will upon someone else sometimes include *fascism* and *rape*.

My question then would be "How many people in Belleville would agree or disagree that using fireworks as a weapon is the same thing as an I.E.D.?"

And ask the community. Because I think there should a LAW against that and it should carry a SEVERE PENALTY.

A Roman Candle hand-held firework burns at a temperature of 4,500 degrees Fahrenheit. The temperature of a bullet casing is only 500 degrees. It's certainly concerning to me, to think a child could watch the news like I do and take a firework to school and burn the whole thing down instead of shooting up a classroom.

These protests are setting a destructive example for our children and it absolutely must stop.

Roland Smith

Van Buren Township

In-person for students, Zoom for board

To the editor:

Subject: Vol. 26.33 *Belleville-Area Independent*

It seems very contradictory for the board to order in-person learning for children and yet have meeting via. ZOOM! This is about the intelligence of TRUMP! For the record, I am an Independent.

Charles "Dusty" Pearse

Van Buren Township

Sec. of State Benson reports 10,600 ballots rejected statewide

More than 80% of the 10,600 absentee ballots rejected in Michigan's August primary election were due to signature verification issues or because they arrived to the clerk's office after election day.

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson on Aug. 14 released preliminary data on the rejected ballots. Of the absentee ballots that weren't counted: 6,405 were rejected because they arrived after election day, 1,438 were rejected because the voter didn't sign the ballot, 1,111 were rejected because the voter moved, 864 were rejected because the voter is dead, 787 were rejected because the signature on the ballot didn't match the voter's signature recorded with the state, 51 voters canceled their ballots, 31 voters sent in envelopes missing ballots, 24 voters didn't confirm their ID and one voter was incarcerated.

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Sen. Gary Peters, Congresswoman Dingell to speak to Democrats

The Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club announces Salute to Michigan, a "Virtual Happy Hour Club Fundraiser," at 7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 27, via Zoom. They will be toasting the fabulous Michigan craft beer and wine industries, while providing a platform for engagement.

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Congresswoman Debbie Dingell

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Obituaries

FLEM 'BUB' STILTNER III

June 19, 1972 – August 9, 2020

Flem "Bub" Stiltner III was born on June 19, 1972 in Farmington Hills. He passed away on August 9, 2020 at the age of 48. Flem is survived by parents Flem Jr. (Sandra) and Nancy (Joe) Higgs; son Flem Stiltner IV; two daughters, Cheyanne Stiltner, Megan Stiltner; three sisters Tina (Joe Franklin) Higgs, Karen (Feras) Karim, Tammie (Todd) Batemen; two brothers John (Krista) Stiltner, Roger Gainer; and two grandsons, Ian Tallent, RyeJ Stiltner.

Memorial service to be held at a later date. Arrangements by Uht Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Westland.

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Obituaries



Zigmund John Kowal

ZIGMUND JOHN KOWAL

(August 29, 1925 – August 11, 2020)

Zigmund John Kowal age 94, peacefully passed into the arms of his Lord and Savior Tuesday morning August 11, 2020 in his home in Romulus, Michigan.

He was born August 29, 1925 in Hamtramck, Michigan. He grew up in Dearborn and graduated from Fordson High School in 1944. He was immediately called upon to serve his country in the U.S. Army in World War II. Zigmund was proud to serve and fought in the Battle of the Bulge surviving the hardest conflict of the war.

He retired from Ford Motor Company, Rouge Plant, after 30 loyal years as a tool and die maker.

Ziggy was a member of St. Anthony Catholic Church, Belleville. He enjoyed golf, bowling, gardening and horse racing, owning a horse named "Ginny Lark" in his younger years.

His love for family and his heart to service characterized his life. He never married, but his love for his nieces and nephews, and the influence he has had on all our lives, passes down to our children and grandchildren to this day. He has been a Patriarch to our families.

Memories we cherish he preserved for us in films he made in our growing up years.

Films of Thanksgiving and Christmas together, be it back-yard, summer-time fun, camping trips, and all our first communions. Times shared together and his love is a gift he has given our family. His life a treasure we can pass down. Ziggy had a big, thoughtful, tender heart with a friendly spirit that brought joy to all he would meet, and he will be greatly missed.

Ziggy is survived by many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Theodore and Agnes (Zarzecna) Kowal, two brothers Stanley (Anne) Kowal and Walter Kowal, and two sisters Joanna "Janina" Kowal, and Wanda (Fred) Nalett.

His family was planning a 95th birthday party, and instead will host visitation from 10-11 AM Friday, August 28, 2020 at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 409 W. Columbia Ave, Belleville, MI 48111 with an 11 AM Funeral Mass. Father John Kiselica will serve as celebrant. VFW Post #4434 will render full Military Honors following the Funeral Mass. Interment will be with his family in St. Hedwig Cemetery, Dearborn Heights, Michigan. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, Michigan.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Anthony Catholic Church.

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Barbara Ann Stamper

BARBARA ANN STAMPER

Barbara A. Stamper, age 81, of Taylor, August 10, 2020. Beloved wife of the late Lee Stamper. Loving mother of Charlotte (Richard) Cortis, Jeff (Maura) Stamper and Todd (Tina) Stamper. Dear grandmother of Alexander, Abigail, Justin (Jennifer), Amber (Zack), Daniel (Kevin), Krystal, Jeff (Hailey) and Kory (Phillip). Dearest great-grandmother of Logan, Mackenzie, Kylee, Aubree, Abel, Edyn, Jeff and Audrina. She is also survived by her brother Stanley (Marilyn) Silka and sister Annette Slee. She was preceded in death by her sister Cecelia Heyert. Arrangements made at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, (next to Michigan Memorial Park) 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 783-2646. Her cremation took place at "The Witness Crematory" located inside of Michigan Memorial Funeral Home.

www.mimemorial.com



Mary Jean Soutar

MARY JEAN SOUTAR

(May 19, 1944 – August 17, 2020)

Mary Jean Soutar, age 76, of Sumpter Township, MI, passed away Monday, August 17, 2020 at her home. She was born May 19, 1944 in Dearborn, MI, daughter of Charles & Mary (O'Neil) Gabbard. She was an avid reader who loved to garden and cherished time spent with her grandchildren.

Mary is survived by her loving husband of 54 years, Charles Patrick Soutar; son David (Melissa) Soutar of Jackson, MI; two daughters Jeanne (Steve) Goodman of Saline, MI and Eileen (Kristy) Soutar of Royal Oak, MI; 5 grandchildren: Leah Soutar, David Soutar, Jr., Heather Soutar, Colin Goodman and Emma Goodman; great-granddaughter Brooklyn; three sisters: Marge (Chuck) Pawloski of Arizona, Geraldine (Chuck) Wojtkiewicz of Fowlerville, MI, and Carolyn (Kevin) Mahaz of Vienna Township, MI; brother Charles Gabbard of Florida; newly discovered sister Judy (Joe) Beeker of Fowlerville, MI; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, also a brother John Gabbard.

Visitation was Wednesday 5-8 p.m. and will be Thursday, August 20, 2020 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. with a 1 p.m. Funeral Service at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Pastor Gordon Moore will officiate. Interment will be in Great Lakes National Cemetery, Holly, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to Michigan Humane Society and would be appreciated.

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More Obituaries on page 6 & 8

Obituaries



Wonedith Robinson

WONEDITH ROBINSON

(August 24, 1933 – August 15, 2020)

Wonedith Robinson was called to heaven on August 15, 2020 from Belleville, MI. She attended Bible Study where she lived and was of Baptist faith. She was born in Rockcastle County, KY to Enoch S. Ward and Ebby Florence Ward. She attended Brodhead, KY schools. Wonedith worked in the dry-cleaning business and was an owner of Carriage Cleaners in Ypsilanti, MI for many years.

When Wonedith retired she and her best friend Bob Kootsillas enjoyed walking local parks, the town of Belleville, attending summer concerts, car shows, festivals and the annual Bridge Walk. She was a proud supporter of the Yankee Air Museum and attended TAPS at the Veteran's Memorial Park monthly. She was a member of the Van Buren Senior Center. She loved the Belleville Library where she attended many events. A favorite hobby was working "jigsaw puzzles" and going to nearby casinos. She will be remembered for her sense of humor and infectious smile.

Wonedith was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and is survived by a son Steve (Debbe) Robinson of WI, daughters, Jacqueline Mathis (Gustie Hurt, Jr.) of Belleville and Jennifer Sauvage (Steve Cupolo) of Florida; grandchildren: Laurie Doyle, Christina Kasson, Ben Robinson, Jason Robinson, Jeffrey Kari, Jeremy Mathis, Justin Mathis and Jacob Sauvage; and several great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son David Robinson.

A service will be held at a date to be determined at Madison Memorial Gardens in Richmond, KY. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a Go Fund Me #HarperStrong, her beloved great granddaughter in Belleville who is fighting cancer, or to a charity of your choice.



Karen Ann Coleman

KAREN ANN COLEMAN

(December 5, 1951 – August 11, 2020)

Karen Ann Coleman, age 68, long-time Belleville area resident, passed away Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at her home. She was born December 5, 1951 in Oneida, Tennessee, daughter of Carl & Evelyn (Byrd) Boshears. She was a former member of the Van Buren Eagles and the Red Hat Society. She loved sports, especially the Detroit Tigers. She was faithful to all three of her children and supported them in each of their sports for years.

Mrs. Coleman is survived by her husband of 50 years, Richard Charles Coleman of Sumpter Township, MI; son Michael (Karen) Coleman of Howell, MI; daughter Sandra (William) Coleman of Romulus; MI, 5 grandchildren: Michael Shaun Coleman, Kalie Marie Coleman, Austin Tyler Wegienka, Steven Richard Coleman and Adelynn Renee Huziak; one great-granddaughter Lavayah; three brothers: Harold (Darlene) Boshears of Grand Rapids, MI, Carlis (Theresa) Boshears and Curtis Boshears, both of Florida; sister-in-law Mary Boshears; also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, son Charles Coleman, sister Teresa Ahuna, also a brother Larry Boshears.

Visitation was Friday, August 14, 2020 and Saturday, August 15, 2020 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there was a limit of ten (10) people in the building at one time. Masks, scarves or bandannas were required inside the building. Interment was Saturday at Washtenong Memorial Park, 3771 Whitmore Lake Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of the family.

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BRADLEY ALAN RENNELS

(September 27, 1979 – August 13, 2020)

Bradley Alan Rennells, age 40, of Romulus, MI, passed away Thursday, August 13, 2020 at his home. He was born September 27, 1979 in Yale, MI, son of Stephen & Debra Rennells. Brad graduated from Belleville High School Class of 1997 and loved electronics.

He is survived by son Austin Rennells, daughter Kaylee Rennells, parents Steve & Debra Rennells of Belleville, MI, grandmother Virginia Jones of Canton, MI, brother Brian (Keiko) Rennells of Novi, MI, sister Sarah (Aaron) Mominee of Belleville, MI, nieces Tiffany & Ashley, nephew Everett, also another niece on-the-way, and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his grandfather John Jones, and grandparents Eugene & Joan Rennells. Dignified cremation rites have been accorded. Arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

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MARY CATHERINE DARR

(August 20, 1976 – August 16, 2020)

Age 43, of Belleville, formerly of Bay City, passed away after a battle with cancer. Survived by close friend Greg Raney, two sons Tyler and Evan Fischer; 3 siblings. Cremation rites accorded. David C. Brown Funeral Home.

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Crime Stoppers offering \$30,000 cash for good tip on who murdered Egypt

Egypt Covington, 27, was found murdered on Friday, June 23, 2017 in Van Buren Township. She was discovered in her home at 45576 Hull Rd., west of Sumpter Road.

Crime Stoppers of Michigan and her family are offering a cash reward of up to \$30,000 for information that leads to an arrest. A press conference was held Aug. 11 to announce the reward and a press release was issued.

According to family, Egypt finished a yoga session at about 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 22. She spent about a half hour chatting with a friend from her yoga class before heading home. After Egypt did not respond to numerous calls from her boyfriend that night and the following day, Egypt's boyfriend went to her residence where she was found in her living room shot to death.

Egypt, 27, a new hire as a sales associate at Rave Associates, was a graduate of Belleville High School where she enjoyed saxophone lessons and discovered her singing voice. She continued her education at Washtenaw Community College where she studied sports nutrition and broadcasting. While Egypt enjoyed yoga and cooking, she aspired to be an accomplished vocalist.

If anyone has any information regarding this murder, Crime Stoppers is asking that

the person make an anonymous call to 1-800-SPEAK-UP or visit their website at: www.1800speakup.org.

The caller's identity is 100% anonymous and the reward is also paid anonymously when the tips leads to an arrest. They do not wait for a conviction.

Those with information are asked to help this family without revealing their identity. The tip may be the one to bring this family justice.

Zoom Court Watching

Kenneth Parker faces 14 felony charges for July 31 incident in VBT

Kenneth Lamont Parker, 40, of Ypsilanti had his probable cause conference adjourned for two weeks, until Aug. 26, by 34th District Court Judge Tina Brooks Green, who noted that the defendant had just been arraigned a couple of days earlier.

Judge Green said Parker's attorney said he had been in the infirmary or hospital.

He appeared before Judge Green on Aug. 12 from the Wayne County Jail where he is being held on \$1 million bond, cash or surety.

Parker was charged with 14 felonies on July 31 in Van Buren Township, including criminal sexual conduct first degree, assault with intent to rob while armed, four counts of assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault), aggravated assault, six counts of felony firearm-second offense notice, and possession of firearms by a felon.

The mother of another defendant involved in the incident, Daniel Preston Hopkins, was present via Zoom and at one point in the proceedings the mother called out "crackhead" at Parker. Judge Green told her to be quiet or she would have to leave.

Daniel Preston Hopkins

Daniel Preston Hopkins, 40, of Westland was arraigned the previous week and has a \$100,000 cash or surety bond in the same

(continued on page 10)

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Belleville Area District Library reopens for 'Grab and Go' visits

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

The Belleville Area District Library's Grab and Go service was softly rolled out on July 30 and is now being actively publicized, library director Mary Jo Suchy told the library board at its 36-minute, virtual RingCentral Teleconference on Aug. 11.

Director Suchy said they put all the chairs away so people can't sit down and read and children can't sit in the play area.

The Grab and Go is open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays.

Suchy said patrons may browse on the first floor and children's room, get library cards, pick up holds, fax, scan, and copy.

"We are asking that they limit their visit to 30 minutes due to the state's 25% occupancy requirement," she said. "Masks and social distancing are also required."

She said currently a greeter is being stationed outside of the building and curbside service is still available.

Plexiglas has been installed around the first-floor reference desk.

She said the staff reopening committee is working on a comprehensive plan to reopen the second floor and provide computers while following all of the occupancy, social distancing, and other requirements.

"We have not forgotten about the branch," Suchy said of the media center in Sumpter Township. "I had hoped by now that we would be in Phase 5 and occupancy limits would be increased. 25% occupancy of the branch is about five people."

Suchy said she attended a webinar on the REALM study that tested how long the COVID virus could possibly last on the surface of a variety of library items. She said, in short, the virus was detectable but not measurable after two days and not detectable after four days.

"Most libraries, including us, quarantine returning items for three days," Suchy said. "There has not yet been a known case of the virus being transmitted through library materials."

She said the webinar was being viewed by libraries throughout the United States, as well as a handful of libraries world wide. When surveyed, 38% of the libraries

attending the webinar had partially reopened. 43% had some or all staff on site, but were not open to the public. 8% were fully open.

She said the library HVAC system is currently running in 24/7 mode in order to create more air exchange in the building. Architect Dan Whisler is also investigating other strategies that the library can use to help mitigate COVID, she said.

In other reports, Suchy said:

• Jason Price was rehired the second week of March and will work in several areas,

including security and facilities services.

• Lindsay Lore also was welcomed back and she will fill in where needed. Lore used to be a shelving page in high school and assisted with summer reading for a few weeks while in college.

• Long Mechanical gave the library a contract for annual HVAC maintenance and while they were on the roof they commented on the cottonwood that needs to be cleaned out of the air conditioners. This was a chronic problem in the old library, which Suchy said she hoped the new two-story building would solve.

• The library is adding two products from BrainFuse to its digital services. JobNow offers job resources including resume templates and interview coaching. HelpNow provides learning assistance for students from elementary school age through adult, including homework assistance, math, science, reading/writing, and social studies tutoring.

Court Watching

(continued from page 9)

incident as Parker on July 31 in Van Buren Township.

Defense attorney William Glenn asked for reduction of the bond to \$10,000/10% with a GPS tether. He said Hopkins is from Texas and has local family.

Prosecutor John Trummer said he had no objection to reduction of bond because there is a self-defense issue that only the trier of fact can resolve.

Judge Green reduced the bond. Hopkins told her he would stay with his cousin in Westland for at least the next two weeks.

Hopkins is charged with assault with intent to murder, assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, and assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault).

The probable cause conference will be Aug. 26.

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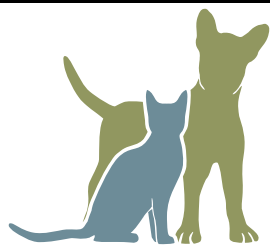
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Independent photo by James Otzman

On Aug. 13, digging began for the huge underground wastewater storage tank that would be under the library's new parking lot. The old library had to be demolished before work on the parking lot could begin. The work temporarily cut off access to the alley for Fourth Street drivers. The 91-space parking lot will be shared by users of the Belleville Area District Library and general parking in the City of Belleville.

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VBT Planners delay action on RM-Multiple zoning amendments

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Zoning amendments that would open the door to Scott Jones' planned single-family detached condos on small, lakeside lots was again delayed by the Van Buren Township Planning Commission at its Aug. 12 meeting via Zoom.

In early 2019, the township received a request from Jones to rezone a 13.6-acre parcel at 41620 E. Huron River Dr. from R-1C to RM zoning designation. He was seeking the rezoning to be able to construct these homes at a higher density than is allowed under the R1-C zoning district.

The R1-C Zoning district allows for the construction of single family homes at 5 dwelling units per acre. Jones wants to have a density of 6-7 units per acre.

After consideration, the township amended the Master Plan to change the zoning on the site from R-1C to RM with limitations. This would allow the required density for his development and protect against any other potential uses allowed in the RM district which may not fit in this area, such as apartment complexes.

The next step is to amend the zoning ordinance. This change would not just benefit the applicant, but would also make some homes in the township into legal conforming structures, said Vidya Krishnan, planning consultant from McKenna Associates.

Krishnan presented the planning commission with two options:

- Low-range density of 6.05 units per acre with 7,200-square-foot lot size, 60' minimum lot width, and a side yard of 10 feet; or
- High-range density of 6.91 units per acre, with 6,300-square-foot lot size, 45' minimum lot width, and side yard of 5'.

During a discussion of the proposed zoning changes at the July 8 meeting, the planning commission asked staff to investigate density and frontage standards used in comparable projects and to explore lands currently zoned or planned for multiple-family residential land use in the township.

At the Aug. 12 meeting, the commission was presented with details of Cherry Hill Village in Canton (338 acres approved for

1,900 residential units and neighborhoods with density from 12 per acre to 4 per acre) and the condos on North Liberty Street in the City of Belleville (10 dwelling units on about 1.5 acres with density of about 6.7 units per acre).

Planning and Economic Development Director Dan Power presented information on other places in the township that might benefit from this zoning change.

He said 505 acres in the township are currently zoned RM and 181 of those acres are undeveloped. Less the utilities and the Harbor Pointe golf club, there are 112 acres left for multiple development. Later it was learned most of those are in small parcels of about 13 acres each.

He said for Jones' project, they have to take the Belleville Lake Shore zoning standards into consideration. The project would be in the BLB portion of the zoning for the shoreline.

Director Power said the only action he was seeking was the setting of a public hearing on the zoning changes.

But, the commissioners had more questions and asked staff to come up with the answers. Krishnan said they wouldn't be able to get the answers by the Aug. 26 meeting packet deadline, so it will be ready at the meeting after next, Sept. 9.

No public hearing was set.

Commission chairperson Carol Thompson said she wasn't in favor of 7 units per acre throughout the development and "sometimes it could be just what fits." She'd like to see it work so there's flexibility. Also she prefers garages not in front and doesn't like backyards facing main roads. She also would like to know if there are market trends for smaller residential units.

"McMansions were very popular in Canton," Thompson said. "Not so now. We should encourage building things that will sell."

Director of Public Service Matt Best said the zoning changes being sought are not specific to the Jones' development, but how a change would affect the township.

"We already made a change to the Master Plan," Director Best said. "We need to be cautious about talking about specific projects."

Best talked about the timing. "I want to get it right, but we need to provide the planning commission with information and guidance, as soon as possible."

Director Best said they have to be responsive to move this forward and any ideas on the zoning change should be sent to the planning department.

"I would like as complete a report as possible for you," Best said to the commission.

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More Letters

We've got to do it ourselves in Sumpter

To the editor:

There is something that happens every spring and summer in Sumpter Township which seems to come as a surprise to some folks running the show around here, and also in Wayne County.

Things grow.

Last year, the intersection at Sherwood Road and Willow Road became overgrown with an assortment of weeds and other plants, to the point where the ability to see oncoming traffic was severely restricted, particularly northbound on Sherwood. The only way to get a clear view was to inch out onto the paved road, or park your vehicle, walk up to the road and look around.

So, I called the township.

The lady I talked to acknowledged that the overgrowth problem was wide-spread in Sumpter Township, and she cited a couple of other examples where it had become a serious problem. She explained that it was Wayne County's responsibility and she would call in a request for repair, then call me back with a "ticket number" in case I needed to follow up.

Well, a few days later I still had not received the phone call with the "ticket number," and the problem had not been addressed. While driving down Sumpter Road, I noticed a township pickup truck parked on the side of the road and an employee with a gas-powered weed wacker trimming around fire hydrants. I then called the township and talked to the same person again and asked if she could send the worker to the intersection for 15 minutes, or so. She refused, saying that the equipment was for use around fire hydrants and for trimming under swing sets at the park. When I explained that someone could get injured or killed at the intersection, she made it clear, that now, I had become the problem.

I then realized that under these specific circumstances, the administration's policy regarding the safety of its residents is, "It's not my job, man."

Well, Wayne County wouldn't do it, Sumpter Township wouldn't do it ... so I did. Not the best of equipment, no traffic

cones, or flashing lights, and not as well as I would have liked, but it got done.

This year some folks were surprised again, when things started to grow, but not me, and not a lot of Sumpter residents who spend more time getting things done than flapping their jaws.

Where I live, here in Sumpter, there is a neighbor who maintains a stretch of the road easement in front of his property and far beyond, making sure, also, that the fire hydrant is cleared. He doesn't have to do that. It's not his job, man. Over the years there have been massive tree limbs which had fallen, blocking the road. Neighbors came out with tractors and chain saws and had the road cleared quicker than you could say "ticket number." I've seen a young family cleaning out ditches and folks cutting the vines from around telephone poles. In the winter, stretches of road and some driveways have been plowed by neighbors. All of that was done without discussion, without consulting with attorneys, and without having to second a motion.

Driving around Sumpter Township these past few weeks, I've noticed dozens of traffic signs which are (or were) partially or completely obstructed by foliage. I've noticed intersections which are overgrown with restricted visibility to oncoming traffic, including Sherwood Road and Willow Road, which I cleared out, as best I could, a few days ago. Mary Ban, the citizens' advocate, knows of many other overgrown, and potentially dangerous areas in the township.

The bottom line: We can't wait for Wayne County to get the job done. The administration of Sumpter Township won't do the job, even though the great crew you see out there every day in the white pickup trucks are always eager and ready to help. It's up to the citizens to get the job done. I keep loppers in my car now, and when I see a street sign obstructed or an overgrown intersection, I take care of it, as best I can. I invite everyone living in Sumpter to take a look at their own areas and, if it can be done safely, cut down those obstructions which occur every year. Even though it's not your job, man, you will feel much better afterwards, knowing you've helped someone else.

Randall Miller
Sumpter Township

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Belleville Council accepts resignation of city clerk/treasurer

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At Monday's Zoom meeting of the Belleville City Council, the resignation letter of City Clerk/Treasurer Sherri Scharf, effective Sept. 4, was unanimously accepted.

Councilman Tom Fielder was absent from the meeting.

No comment was made on the reason for her resignation, but members of the council praised her work.

Mayor Pro Tem Jesse Marcotte said she has been "very helpful, very productive and very approachable." He asked if the city conducted exit interviews and City Manager Tracey Schultz Kobylarz said she plans to have a talk with her.

City Manager Kobylarz showed her left arm in a cast from a wrist injury and said Scharf had been very helpful with her filing and other jobs now difficult for Kobylarz.

"She talks about things that have or have not happened during her tenure," Kobylarz said.

Mayor Kerreen Conley thanked Scharf for all that she's done for the city.

Councilman Ken Voigt said Scharf was the embodiment of what you'd want in customer service with her warm smile and helpful attitude.

Scharf was hired as clerk/treasurer in May 2016 after the departure of Lisa Long.

At the time, Scharf said her family was looking to move back to Michigan and she flew in from North Carolina for her interview. She was serving as executive assistant to the township manager in Aiken, SC, with a population of 5,000 and double-digit poverty. She had county and state government experience, but the local government is close to the people, without buffers, which she said she likes. She said she knew computer programs. She said she had another interview with a municipality the next day and an interview with the state the next week.

Kobylarz was authorized to conduct the search for a new city clerk/treasurer.

In other business at Monday's 52-minute meeting, the council.

- Approved adding the name of Kobylarz as a signatory to warrants issued for city purchases, payroll, payments, and other official documents effective immediately. Two signatures are required and Mayor Conley, Councilman Tom Fielder and Scharf had been approved signatories. Scharf was removed;

- Unanimously approved holding the annual city-wide yard sales on Sept. 12 and 13, following social distancing and using

masks;

- Accepted the donations of two sculptures, possibly to be placed in Horizon Park. Councilman Ken Voigt presented the offer, with one from Justin Juriga of the Upsidedown Man he had offered to the city eight to ten years earlier and nobody could figure out what to do with it. Councilman Voigt said the 400-pound sculpture is of sheet metal and it has to be repainted because it was damaged in the city's custody. The second sculpture is by Tim Elden and is of recycled rebar. Voigt said the Arts Council purchased it from Elden and would like to donate it to the city;

- Voted to set up a strategic planning committee to look into the MEDC Development Ready Community program to see if it would benefit Belleville. Voigt presented the idea and the council agreed. They will seek two committee volunteers each from the city council, planning commission, and downtown development authority, along with the city manager, DPW, police chief and fire chief. Voigt agreed to be one of the council volunteers;

- Approved accounts payable of \$163,907.37 and the following purchases in excess of \$500: to Watertap, Inc., \$7,220 for water valve insertion on East Huron River Drive on Aug. 3; to Oakland County Treasurer, \$4,077.08 from police dept. for CLEMIS membership for the second quarter; to Blue Ribbon Contracting, \$3,080 for water line replacement on Dec. 26 at 351 Edison St.; to Metro Environmental, \$1,585 for vector work on water main on Aug. 2 near 314 East Huron River Dr., and \$1,350 to WorkNGear for DPW uniforms;

- Heard council members say they are keeping their neighbors in Sumpter

Township in their thoughts and prayers because of the tragedy over the weekend. Marcotte said, "Our community is there for their community." Voigt said he was a cop for a long time and never had that happen. He especially was concerned with the first responders who had to deal with it;

- Heard Voigt say the 75th anniversary of Belleville becoming a city was coming up and he would like to see it commemorated. He said the police department was established at that time. Councilwoman Kelly Bates looked it up on Wikipedia and found it became a city in 1946 so they have a year to plan;

- Heard Voigt also praise the Central Business Community, and particularly Janet Millard, for doing a great job with the farmer's market held each Monday afternoon at the Fourth Street Square. He said they have quite a few vendors and they are next to two restaurants so there it is quite a hub of activity. "It's the only ceremonial space in the city used like that," he said;

- Heard Councilwoman Bates say she has been advised that the kayak launch has finally been installed. She also announced she has applied for a Michigan Municipal League microgrant to help with the reinvention of the Strawberry Festival or whatever it turns out to be. She also noted the 100-year anniversary of the vote for woman on Aug. 18. She added it took until 1965 for women of all races to get the vote;

- Heard Fire Chief Brian Loranger announce he has won a grant for the department for an \$8,000 thermal imaging camera that will cost the department just \$500; and

- Heard Mike Renaud recall how the city had planned to come back in August on the plan to either raze or rehab the building it owns next to city hall. Kobylarz said another person had come in to look at it and they found the roof has leaked even more and destroyed the freezer element the city was considering selling.

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"When I do good, I feel good; when I do bad, I feel bad, and that is my religion."
— Abraham Lincoln

HELP WANTED

Quest, Inc. is HIRING

We're looking for fun, energetic & caring Direct Care Workers to assist persons with special needs we serve in their own homes. Starting wage \$11.30 per hour for trained staff, plus signing incentive.

Applicants must be:

- Responsible & committed and work well with others.
- Have a clean criminal record.
- Be available for training. MORC/WCCMH/CLS Training is preferred.

Send Letter/Resume to: recruiter@questserv.org or Call (734) 458-8140



PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Anniversary

Aug. 21 – Tom and Debbie Griffin, 38 years

"Trust, but verify."

— Ronald Reagan

Notice to Advertisers:

The *Belleville-Area Independent* will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The *Independent's* liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the *Independent* be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych



Due to COVID-19, and the difficulties of having group fundraisers with food offerings, the Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue has decided to cancel their favorite fundraiser for this year, the Spay-ghetti and No Balls Fundraiser in September. They hope to have it scheduled again in 2021 and they look forward to reopening their shelter back to normal business hours and to resume adoption and meet and greet events as we get through these challenging times. You still can support the no-kill shelter in Sumpter by visiting their website at www.friendsofmichigan.org. Call (734) 461-9458.

Congratulations to Hidalgo Authentic Mexican Restaurant of Belleville in the Davenport Plaza behind Family Dollar as they celebrate their 10th Anniversary. The restaurant is only open right now for pick up/curbside service and carry out by

calling (734) 697-3271. Beer and wine are available, too. Over two-thirds of their menu is gluten-free and they've got a great selection of desserts, too, all home-made. Visit www.hidalgobelleville.com.

Downtown Romulus Flower Shop is having a craft and vendor show this Saturday, Aug. 22, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in their parking lot. Social distancing and other guidelines will be in place.

Perspective Eyecare on Belleville Road stocks more than 1,000 frames by top designers like Vera Wang, Kate Spade, Jimmy Choo, Oakley, Ray Ban, Boss, and many others. Social guidelines are in place. Call (734) 699-1010 and visit www.perspectiveeyecare.com. See their ad in today's paper and also visit them on Facebook.

Due to COVID-19, the Wayne County Fair was canceled this year. It would normally have taken place this month. However, the fairgrounds on Quirk Road just north of the North I-94 Service Drive is still open for daily, weekly, and extended-stay recreational camping with more than 100

campsites, offering full hook-ups with 50-Amp electric, water and sewer. A shower house, laundry, and WiFi is also available. Looking for somewhere to store your boat or camper for the winter? The WCF offers indoor and outdoor storage at good rates. Campers must follow social guidelines in place and masks must be worn in the common areas of the grounds. Reservations can also be made by phone and online. Visit www.waynecountyfairgrounds.net and call (734) 697-7002.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your idea. There is no cost to be in this column.

Birthdays

Aug. 20 – Gary Dwornik
Aug. 24 – Margaret Rochon, Christina Brasil, Phyllis Roullier
Aug. 27 – Kevin McNamara, Theresa Antonelli
Aug. 28 – Becca Carpenter, Joan Dyer, Michael Ackron

Do you or someone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* and we will publish as soon as possible.

To build a better world, start in your own community

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

On August 26th, 2020, the Van Buren Township Police Department will conduct a public auction of impounded and abandoned vehicles. The auction will begin at 10:30am, at **J&T Towing and Storage**, 287 Industrial Dr. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2001	FORD	VA	1FBSS31L21HA07584	20-8397
1995	SEADOO	WC	ZZNE0098L495	20-8592
2008	BUICK	4D	1G4HP57258U145392	20-8703
2012	FORD	4D	3FADP4AJ7CM112538	20-9325
1991	COBIA	WC	CBAMD220E091	20-9488

At 11:30am, the auction will move to **Great Lakes Towing** and storage, 42350 Van Born Rd. Belleville MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles, will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2003	FORD	4D	3FAFP37353R166743	20-9116
1999	SUBARU	4D	4S3BG6854X7602652	20-9108
2005	CHEVROLET	2D	2G1WX12K059187580	20-8892
2005	CADILLAC	4D	1G6DP567750134870	20-8526
2004	KIA	SW	KNDJC733645250510	20-8017
2001	BMW	4D	WBAGG83441DN89293	20-7456
1995	FORD	SW	1FDEE14N2SHA80095	20-7428
2007	FORD	4D	3FAHP02187R161880	20-7195
2012	CHEVROLET	4D	1G1JC6SB6C4218219	20-6695
2011	CADILLAC	SW	3GYFNGEYXBS505861	20-6068
2002	LINCOLN	4D	1LNHM81W52Y631528	20-6194
UNK	GRADALL	EQ	MAN LIFT	20-6026

All vehicles are sold in “as is condition.” Bidding on all impounded vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

Leon Wright MMC, CMMC., Van Buren Township Clerk,
Published: August 20th, 2020

City of Belleville Public Notice

CITY OF BELLEVILLE Regular City Council Meeting Minutes Monday June 15, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE

A regular called meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order by Mayor Conley at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom teleconference.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Conley asked for a moment of silence and to remember Mr. George Floyd with a heavy heart, and that we keep his family, those that are unjustly impacted, and the law enforcement officers who are doing their jobs to protect all people in our hearts

2. ROLL CALL

Mayor Conley	Present
Council Member Bates	Present
Council Member Fielder	Present
Mayor Pro Marcotte	Present
Council Member Voigt	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS
None

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION BY MARCOTTE SECOND BY BATES TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED by adding two items: policy/ordinance regarding smoking in parks and Doane's Landing bid award.

AYES: VOIGT, BATES, FIELDER, MARCOTTE, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY MARCOTTE, SECOND BY BATES to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 1, 2020 as amended.

AYES: BATES, FIELDER, MARCOTTE, VOIGT, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

6. PUBLIC HEARING None

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES None

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Approve budget amendments for year ending June 30, 2020

MOTION BY VOIGT, SECOND BY FIELDER to approve **Resolution No. 20-051** to approve budget amendments as presented for year ending June 30, 2020.

AYES: FIELDER, MARCOTTE, VOIGT, BATES, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

B. Consider quote for cleanout of building attached to City Hall

MOTION BY FIELDER, SECOND BY VOIGT to approve **Resolution No. 20-052** to seek bids/proposals on remediation or demolition.

AYES: MARCOTTE, VOIGT, BATES, FIELDER, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

C. Award fence and concrete repair contract at Doane's landing to sole bidder

MOTION BY MARCOTTE, SECOND BY FIELDER to approve **Resolution No. 20-053** awarding contract to Outdoor Amenities as presented.

AYES: VOIGT, BATES, FIELDER, MARCOTTE, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

D. RFPs - concrete restoration, ADA path and reinstalling benches at Doane's Landing
MOTION BY VOIGT, SECOND BY FIELDER to approve Resolution No. 20-054 directing City Administration to seek RFPs for concrete restoration, ADA path, and reinstalling benches at Doane's Landing.

AYES: BATES, FIELDER, MARCOTTE, VOIGT, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

E. Initiate discussion regarding smoking in City parks

At Council Member Bates request, a discussion regarding smoking in parks was initiated. City Administration and Council Members will conduct additional research regarding signage, education, enforcement, and research of ordinances. Findings will be discussed at a date to be determined.

No action was taken.

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

MOTION BY BATES, SECOND BY MARCOTTE approve **Resolution 20-055**, Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures for \$138,271.31 and the following purchases in excess of \$500.00

TownWeb	\$2010.00
Mueller Systems	\$1109.10

AYES: FIELDER, MARCOTTE, VOIGT, BATES, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

10. RECESS

The City Council meeting was recessed at approximately 8:35 p.m. due to technical difficulties.

11. RECONVENE

The recessed meeting of the City Council resumed on July 6, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom teleconference.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Conley	Present
Council Member Bates	Present
Council Member Fielder	Present
Mayor Pro Marcotte	Present
Council Member Voigt	Present

Roll call established that all City Council members that were present at the June 15, 2020 meeting are present again at the reconvened meeting via Zoom.

13. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mike Renaud suggested that several city trees need to be trimmed. Director Rutherford responded.

M.J. Dawson inquired as to when funds from the Special Assessment District would be voted on. Mayor Conley responded.

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY BATES, SECOND BY FIELDER to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

MOTION PASSED

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Schultz Kobylarz

Interim City Manager

Approved: July 20, 2020

Published: August. 20, 2020

Murders

(continued from page 1)

Escorted by a friend to the sheriff's office, Bailey spotted a deputy sheriff heading into work to start his shift, *The Detroit News* reported. The friend honked to get the deputy's attention, and Bailey turned himself in, telling the deputy he had some legal troubles in Wayne County.

The murder victims were identified by family members on Facebook as Bailey's former fiancée Laura Tanner, her sister Sarah Tanner, and their two cousins, brothers, Neil and Forrest Sampson.

A neighbor told reporters that just Bailey and Laura Tanner lived in the house that was the murder scene.

An Oct. 29 charge in 34th District Court against Bailey was assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder in Sumpter Township, along with a domestic violence charge. Laura Tanner was the victim and Bailey's bond required him to stay away from her.

On Nov. 20, the assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Larry King told Judge Brian

Oakley that he had some issues with the gun and would like to dismiss the felony charge of assault. They proceeded with the domestic violence misdemeanor, but the victim was not at the courthouse. King said they wanted to contact the victim before the next court session. Judge Oakley said the victim must attend the next court session, which was set for Dec. 11 and then adjourned until Jan. 2.

On Jan. 2 the pre-trial was held and the victim did not appear so the charge was dismissed without prejudice, which means it could be refiled in the future.

Bailey's address at the time of last fall's charges was the same address as Saturday's murders. After the charges were brought and was ordered to stay away from the victim, he moved to Wyandotte.

After both charges were dropped, he no longer had to stay away from her.

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bellevilleareaindependent.com**

Flem Stiltner IV charged with murdering his father Flem Stiltner III

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

On Aug. 12, 25-year-old Flem Stiltner IV was charged with the first-degree murder of his 48-year-old father Flem Stiltner III, in Wayne, and remanded to the Wayne County Jail without bond.

His arraignment was at 29th District Court in Wayne. He also was charged with first-degree home invasion and tampering with evidence.

According to Wayne Police at about 10:15 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 9, a passerby alerted Van Buren Township police that a truck was stuck in the grass around Belleville Lake in the area of Belleville and Quirk roads.

Police allege the defendant killed his father before placing him in the bed of his father's pickup truck and driving the body to Van Buren Township.

Stiltner, IV, was taken into custody Monday, Aug. 10. He is scheduled to return to 29th District Court on Aug. 25 for his probable cause conference and on Sept. 1 for his preliminary exam.

VBT Police turned the investigation over to the Michigan State Police when it was discovered that the homicide took place

in the victim's home in the 4400 block of John Hix Road, south of Michigan Avenue, in Wayne, and the body was moved.

The MSP and Wayne police are investigating the homicide.

MSP showed channel 7 News viewers the ruts in the grass that indicate someone was trying put the truck in the lake but got stuck.

Those with information about this case are asked to call the MSP Metro South Post at (734) 287-5000 or leave a tip on the MSP Mobile App.

COVID-19 positive cases in 48111 rise to 570

The COVID-19 death rate in the 48111 zip code had been 30 since June 22, but then on July 25 one more death was recorded. The coronavirus deaths in the tri-community of Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter have remained at 31 since then.

The positive tests for COVID-19 in 48111 were 570 on Tuesday, Aug. 18, up from 555 the previous Tuesday, Aug. 11.

On Tuesday, Aug. 18, the separate numbers released by the Wayne County Health Department for the tri-community were: Van Buren Township, 335 positive cases, 16 deaths; City of Belleville, 168 positive cases, 14 deaths; and Sumpter Township 67 positive cases, 1 death.

City of Belleville Public Notice

CITY OF BELLEVILLE Regular City Council Meeting Minutes Monday, July 20, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order by Mayor Conley at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom teleconference.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Fielder	Present
Council Member Voigt	Present
Council Member Bates	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Marcotte	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

1. Mayor Conley recognized the effort of Mr. Doug Brown who retyped the list of everyone buried at Hillside Cemetery. The document will assist visitors to the cemetery find their loved ones.

2. Mayor Conley recognized the two volunteers that have planted the beautiful flowers in the front and sides of City Hall.

3. Mayor Conley recognized the quick actions of City Manager Kobylarz for accommodating a crew that filmed a commercial in Belleville. Mayor Conley also wanted to "plant a seed" that some of the funds raised through this venture be used to reward our staff members for their efforts through the pandemic.

B. COUNCIL FOLLOW-UP LIST

Council Member Voigt asked for an update on Doane's Landing. City Manager responded that crews were due to begin work July 20, 2020. More information will be provided to council as soon as possible.

C. CITIZENS COMMENTS

1. Chief Loranger requested:
• Crosswalk sign be replaced at 4th Street Square.
Council Member Fielder commented that the installation of lit crosswalk sign is part of the enhancements planned by the DDA.

• Weeds need to be removed at 4th Street Square
2. Mike Renaud asked if the City of Belleville is participating in the same grant that Supervisor McNamara spoke about in a recent newspaper article. Mayor Conley answered affirmatively. The Mayor explained the grants are part of the Michigan CARES Act and the City has applied for two grants.

3. Patricia Myles requested that City Council remove the monument of Renee' LaSalle. She would like this item placed on a future agenda for City Council to consider.

4. Greg Olszta requested that City Council remove the

monument of Renee' LaSalle.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION BY MARCOTTE, SECOND BY VOIGT TO APPROVE AGENDA AS PRESENTED
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY BATES, SECOND BY FIELDER TO APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 15, 2020 AND THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 6, 2020.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. PUBLIC HEARING

NONE

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

NONE

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

MOTION BY MARCOTTE, SECOND BY FIELDER TO APPROVE **RESOLUTION NO. 20-058** CONTRACTS FOR LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE AS FOLLOWS: LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LEGAL SERVICES TO SHIFMAN, FOURNIER

ALL OTHER MUNICIPAL LEGAL SERVICES TO CUMMINGS, MCCLOREY, DAVIS AND ACHO.

AYES: VOIGT, BATES, MARCOTTE, FIELDER, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

MOTION BY BATES, SECOND BY MARCOTTE TO APPROVE **RESOLUTION NO. 20-059** ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES FOR \$65,959.31 AND THE FOLLOWING PURCHASES IN EXCESS OF \$500.00:

Blue Ribbon Contracting	\$2,850.00
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Osborne Concrete	\$1,202.00
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AYES: BATES, MARCOTTE, FIELDER, FIELDER, VOIGT, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

10. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

NONE

11. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

NONE

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY BATES, SECOND BY VOIGT to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,
Tracey Schultz Kobylarz
Interim City Manager

Approved: August 7, 2020

Published: August 20, 2020

City of Belleville Public Notice

CITY OF BELLEVILLE Regular City Council Meeting Minutes Monday, July 6, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

A regular called meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order by Mayor Conley at 7:40 p.m. via Zoom teleconference.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Fielder	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Marcotte	Present
Council Member Bates	Present
Council Member Voigt	Present
Mayor Conley	Present

3. PRESENTATIONS & CITIZENS COMMENTS

A. PRESENTATIONS

None

B. COUNCIL FOLLOW-UP LIST

1. Council Member Voigt noticed that the sandbags have been removed from Main Street but loose gravel remains on the bridge. Additionally, South Street needs attention. Director Rutherford responded.

2. Council Member Voigt read a letter he received from Judy Jordan in response to a letter to the editor in the Independent from MJ Dawson on July 2, 2020.

C. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Several comments were made regarding the Special Assessment District/funding.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION BY FIELDER, SECOND BY VOIGT TO APPROVE AGENDA AS AMENDED by adding Item C to General Business, set hours for the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION BY BATES, SECOND BY MARCOTTE to approve minutes for the Special Meeting of June 26, 2020.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. PUBLIC HEARING

None

7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Approve Sale of Unused City Property

At the suggestion of the Mayor, Council referred item back to Administration for broader plan and to report back to Council mid-August.

B. Consider Selection of legal firm(s) for municipal, labor and employment law

At the suggestion of the Mayor, Council referred item back to Administration with the following expectations:

1. Utilize an administrative committee to review proposals
2. Council Members to send their recommendations or comments to City Manager
3. The Administrative Committee to report back to Council

C. Set Hours for the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA)

MOTION BY VOIGT, SECOND BY BATES to approve **Resolution No. 20-057**, establishing hours for the DORA as follows:

Monday through Friday from 4:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. and Saturday from 12:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.

AYES: MARCOTTE, BATES, VOIGT, FIELDER, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

MOTION BY MARCOTTE, SECOND BY BATES to approve **Resolution No. 20-058** Accounts Payable and Departmental Expenditures for \$113,329.29 and the following purchases in excess of \$500.00:

R&R Fire Truck	\$5,350.99
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Cadillac Asphalt	857.90
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AYES: BATES, VOIGT, FIELDER, MARCOTTE, CONLEY

NAYS: NONE

MOTION PASSED

10. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

John Winters from Egan's Pub thanked City Council and recognized that this is a big step for Belleville in making the city a destination place.

14. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

None

15. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY BATES, SECOND BY VOIGT to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,
Tracey Schultz Kobylarz
Interim City Manager

Approved: July 20, 2020

Published: August 20, 2020

Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

There were 359 dispatch calls reported by Van Buren Township police for last week, including the following.

Sunday, Aug. 9:

0151 – trespassing, Bradley Dr.
0519 – neighbor trouble, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0813 – suspicious person/vehicle, Quirk Rd.
1206 – trespassing, Maurice Dr.
1230 – malicious destruction of property, N. I-94 Service Dr.
1252 – threat, Bak Rd.
1349 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
1519 – traffic offense, Hamilton St./Jackson St.
1703 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / S. Grove Rd.
1811 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd.
1906 – suspicious person/vehicle, Westlake Cir.
1945 – 911 welfare check, Parkside Dr.
1953 – animal complaint, E. Archwood Dr.
2015 – harassment call, Vernon St.
2034 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2116 – suspicious person/vehicle, Fairfield Dr.
2145 – misc. complaint, Borgman Ave.
2234 – suspicious person/vehicle, Kirkridge Park Dr.
2317 – property damage accident, Kirkridge Park condos

Monday, Aug. 10:

0003 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.
0049 – juvenile complaint, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0222 – suspicious person/vehicle, Mission Pointe
0421 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
0425 – animal complaint, Quirk Rd./McBride Ave.
0719 – larceny, Ecorse Rd.
0736 – larceny, Ecorse Rd.
0930 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0939 – parking complaint, Pond Bluff Dr.
1112 – assist other dept., Doree Ave.
1142 – suspicious person/vehicle, Borgman Ave. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1203 – private property impound, Ecorse Rd.
1224 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1305 – harassment call, Quirk Rd.
1357 – juvenile complaint, Holly Ln.
1358 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1446 – hospice death, Stonebridge Dr.
1530 – harassment call, Daisy Blvd.
1609 – 911 welfare check, Denton Rd.
1716 – traffic offense, Hayes St./Van Buren St.
1718 – larceny, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1909 – assist other dept., S. I-94 Service Dr.
1936 – suspicious person/vehicle, Mission Pointe
1949 – property damage accident, McBride Ave.
2026 – domestic, Ayres Ave.
2056 – larceny, E. Archwood Dr.
2130 – 911 welfare check, Kirkridge Park Dr.
2201 – domestic, N. Ponderosa Trl.
2227 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.

Tuesday, Aug. 11:

0039 – unauthorized driving away of auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.
0547 – 911 welfare check, Bramblewood Ct.
0929 – assist citizen, Jackson St.
1000 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1017 – ordinance violation, Elwell Rd.
1115 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1119 – civil matter, Locust Dr.
1149 – threat, Cobblestone Ct.
1234 – unattended death, Hannan Rd.
1307 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1328 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1417 – found property/child, Belleville Rd.
1547 – abandoned auto, McBride Ave.
1632 – assist citizen, Tyler Rd.
1800 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1821 – suspicious person/vehicle, Westlake Cir.
2115 – disorderly, N. I-94 Service Dr.
2125 – traffic offense, Van Born Rd./Belleville
2135 – personal injury accident, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Denton Rd.
2150 – family trouble, Hamilton St.

Wednesday, Aug. 12:

0256 – assist other dept., Water’s Edge Ln.
1018 – parking complaint, Preswick Ct./Andover Dr.

1051 – missing person, Winding Pond Dr.
1112 – civil matter, Maple Dr.
1301 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Denton Rd.
1400 – property damage accident, Parkwood Dr.
1516 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1614 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1734 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1911 – family trouble, Andover Dr.
2013 – suspicious person/vehicle, Edison Lake
2021 – civil matter, Denton Rd.
2057 – family trouble, McKinley St.
2133 – property damage accident, Rawsonville
2206 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / sunrise Ln.
2327 – civil matter, Chatsworth Dr.

Thursday, Aug. 13:

0024 – larceny, rest area
0129 – malicious destruction of property, N. Bellridge Dr.
0250 – assist other dept., E. Adams
0315 – domestic, Woodgrove Dr.
0624 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse Rd.
1033 – traffic offense, Amanda Dr./Lindsey Dr.
1055 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1321 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Cemetery
1347 – motorist assist, E. Huron River Dr./Haggerty Rd.
1403 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1419 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1644 – larceny, E. Huron River Dr.
1724 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1724 – larceny, Tyler Rd.
1724 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. Belle Ridge
1813 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1920 – suspicious person/vehicle, Outer Dr.
1953 – traffic offense, Ecorse/Belleville
2021 – suspicious person/vehicle, Jeremy/Ecorse
2236 – suspicious person/vehicle, Kirkridge Park condos
2345 – 911 welfare check, Denton Rd./Marina Cv.
2352 – disorderly, Ecorse Rd.

Friday, Aug. 14:

0202 – unauthorized driving away of auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0208 – family trouble, Holly Ln.
0302 – suspicious person/vehicle, Wildbrook Dr.
0544 – assist other dept., E. Adams
0732 – neighbor trouble, Parkwood Dr.
0858 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Outer Dr.
0923 – private property impound, Denton Rd.
1053 – suspicious person/vehicle, Zachary/Jackson
1328 – misc. complaint, Tyler Rd.
1400 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Van Born Rd.
1530 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1800 – suspicious person/vehicle, Martinsville Rd.
1825 – civil matter, Maple Dr.
1842 – malicious destruction of property, Holly Ln
1841 – suspicious person/vehicle, Locust Dr.
1955 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
2018 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lighthouse Dr.
2119 – suspicious person/vehicle, Pine Dr.
2203 – assault & battery, Parkwood Dr.

Saturday, Aug. 15:

0012 – 911 welfare check, S. Bellridge Dr.
0048 – 911 welfare check, Laguna Dr.
0108 – unauthorized driving away of auto, E. Huron River Dr.
0118 – domestic, Hamlin St.
0137 – 911 welfare check, Haggerty Rd.
0212 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty / N. I-94 Service Dr.
0433 – suspicious person/vehicle, Van Buren Ln.
0926 – harassment call, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0929 – suicidal person, Outer Dr.
1151 – property damage accident, Belleville/94
1218 – suspicious person/vehicle, Wayne Co. Fairgrounds
1340 – assist other dept., Sumpter/Wear
1341 – noise complaint, Maple Dr.
1731 – animal complaint, Belleville Rd.
1805 – suspicious person/vehicle, Jackson St. / Hamilton St.
1944 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1958 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2031 – noise complaint, Arthur St.
2045 – suspicious person/vehicle, Holly
2055 – misc. complaint, E. Huron River Dr.
2110 – suicidal person, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2130 – malicious destruction of property, N. Ponderosa Trl.

2220 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River
Also on this week’s log are 135 traffic stops, 93 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Aug. 9:

1023 – malicious destruction of property, Church
1420 – animal complaint, Sumpter Rd.
1603 – misc. complaint, Main St.
1707 – civil matter, Carmell St.
1854 – animal complaint, N. Liberty St.
2112 – harassment call, Belle Villa Blvd.

Monday, Aug. 10:

0626 – intrusion alarm, Main St.
1345 – private property/property damage accident, South St.
1458 – property damage accident, Main St.
1629 – suspicious person/vehicle, Victorian Ct. / Victorian Ln.
1907 – fraud, Carmell St.

Tuesday, Aug. 11:

0754 – intrusion alarm, Main St.
1725 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.
1856 – intrusion alarm, South St.
1857 – animal complaint, Harbour Pointe Ct.

Wednesday, Aug. 12:

1628 – found property/child, Main St.
1647 – civil matter, Biggs Ave.
1820 – property damage accident, N. Liberty/Fifth
1924 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belle Villa Blvd.
1930 – harassment call, Belle Villa Blvd.
2359 – malicious destruction of property, Belle Villa Blvd.

Thursday, Aug. 13:

0033 – traffic offense, Main St.

Friday, Aug. 14:

0211 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.
1000 – malicious destruction of property, E. Huron River Dr.
1452 – abandoned auto, South St.
1826 – threat, Belle Villa Blvd.
1906 – civil matter, Church St.
2301 – property check, E. Huron River Dr.

Saturday, Aug. 15:

0117 – suspicious person/vehicle, High St.
0922 – personal injury accident, High St.
0950 – motorist assist, Main St./N. Liberty St.
1029 – private property/property damage accident, Main St.
1234 – misc. complaint, Main St.

Also on this week’s log are 177 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Aug. 9:

0020 – noise complaint, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0054 – family trouble, 5100 bl. Oakville Waltz
0934 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
1033 – fire dept. assist, 26000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1151 – fire dept. assist, 21000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1447 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
1648 – family trouble, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2003 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
2217 – suspicious person, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
2353 – follow-up investigation, 19000 bl. Clark Rd.
0600 – larceny, Knollwood Dr.
1003 – citizen assist, 17000 bl. Odyssey Dr.
1036 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster Ave.
1228 – civil matter, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1550 – suspicious circumstances, 51000 bl. Arkona Rd.

Monday, Aug. 10:

0054 – civil matter, Country Club Blvd.
0341 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0532 – welfare check, Haggerty Rd./Oakville Waltz Rd.
1605 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
1903 – family trouble, 49000 bl. Willis Rd.
1933 – traffic complaint, Hampshire Dr.
1946 – suspicious circumstances, 44000 bl. Dunn
2018 – suspicious vehicle, 23000 bl. Martinsville
2051 – family trouble, Brookview Dr.
2107 – suspicious circumstances, Creekside Dr.
2122 – 911 hang up, 39000 bl. Willis Rd.
2157 – 911 hang up, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.

Tuesday, Aug. 11:

0249 – 911 hang up, 42000 bl. willow Rd.
0350 – family trouble, Rustic Ln.
0446 – personal injury accident, Wear Rd./Carleton West Rd.
0649 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0940 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
1040 – subpoena service, Carriage Ln.
1109 – 911 hang up, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
1116 – civil matter, Stonecrest Dr.
1420 – alarm, 4900 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1456 – assist other agency, New Mexico St.
1528 – larceny, 47000 bl. Willis Rd.
1656 – traffic complaint, Judd Rd./Martinsville Rd.
1722 – suspicious vehicle, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1728 – follow-up investigation, Carriage Ln.
1836 – follow-up investigation, Rustic Ln.
1857 – civil matter, Rustic Ln.
1916 – follow-up investigation, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1941 – suspicious circumstances, 19000 bl. Elwell
2017 – juvenile complaint, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
2018 – follow-up investigation, 20000 bl. Elwell
2114 – follow-up investigation, 17000 bl. Sumpter
2117 – suspicious person, 40000 bl. Harris Rd.
2212 – property damage accident, 48000 bl. Sully

Wednesday, Aug. 12:

0241 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
0954 – animal complaint, 26000 bl. Karr Rd.
1012 – suspicious circumstances, 27000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1053 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Willis Rd.

1223 – suspicious person, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1509 – suspicious circumstances, Mulberry Dr.
1822 – 911 hang up, 43000 bl. Wear Rd.
1921 – 911 hang up, Harris Rd./Martinsville Rd.
2013 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.
2128 – suspicious circumstances, 48000 bl. Judd
2151 – suspicious circumstances, Karr Rd./Judd
2342 – traffic complaint, Bemis Rd./Rawsonville

Thursday, Aug. 13:

0222 – fire dept. assist, Stonecrest Dr.
1144 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
1210 – civil matter, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1402 – citizen assist, 6800 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.
1459 – welfare check, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.
1505 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Willis
1744 – assist other agency, 23000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1744 – welfare check, 20000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1817 – animal complaint, 23000 bl. Sumpter
1845 – welfare check, 45000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1951 – civil matter, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2143 – 911 hang up, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2247 – civil matter, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.

Friday, Aug. 14:

0157 – 911 hang up, 26000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0501 – assist other agency, out of township
0653 – 911 hang up, Wayside Dr.
0813 – animal complaint, Judd Rd./Sumpter Rd.
0910 – assist other agency, Wayside Dr.
1109 – animal complaint, Judd Rd./Clark Rd.
1120 – civil matter, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1324 – alarm, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1421 – 911 hang up, 48000 bl. Judd Rd.
1450 – civil matter, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.
1509 – reckless driver, 18000 bl. Morton Ave.
1730 – family trouble, 29000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2050 – harassment complaint, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2234 – suspicious person, 20000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
2244 – noise complaint, Mulberry Dr.

Saturday, Aug. 15:

0341 – property damage accident, Bemis/Savage
0828 – animal complaint, 40000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1147 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Martinsville
1237 – death investigation, 24000 bl. Martinsville
1439 – civil matter, 40000 bl. Willow Rd.
1450 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
1645 – suspicious person, Willow Rd./Karr Rd.
1754 – suspicious circumstances, Rustic Ln.
1810 – civil matter, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1853 – follow-up investigation, out of township
2158 – suspicious circumstances, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
2237 – 911 hang up, Wayside Dr.
2344 – suspicious circumstances, Carleton West Rd. / Judd Rd.

Also on this week’s log are 35 patrol checks, 10 traffic stops, and two misc. details.

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More Letters

Thanks to VBT for our newest park

To the editor:

Thanks to Van Buren Township for our newest park. On the evening of Tuesday, Aug. 11, we enjoyed a birthday celebration, employing Safe Distancing and Masking, at Harris Park on Belleville Road.

We had wonderful music provided by Bill Wilson's Driveway Pandemica Band. The event was catered by one of our newest businesses, "Get the Scoop," who provided yummy ice cream in individual cups. Delicious carrot cake cupcakes were baked by Melanie O'Neill of Crated Earth Farms.

Melanie and her husband Shane manage the Monday night Belleville Farmer's Market.

Belleville and Van Buren Township's resources are abundant and available for all to enjoy. It truly was a delightful evening. Mr. Wilson tells me he may be doing more mini concerts at Harris Park in the near future. So, watch for upcoming dates and info.

Way to SHINE, Belleville and Van Buren Township.

30-year Resident, Claudia Roullier
Belleville

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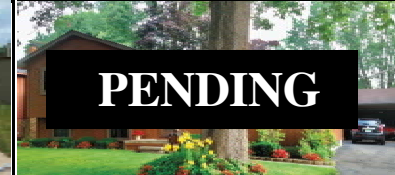
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48024 BEMIS, VAN BUREN TWP
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PRIME LOCATION



41405 TYLER, VAN BUREN
PRIME LOCATION. Corner of Haggerty and Tyler. Opportunity Awaits - 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home. Large Lot with Larger 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. This Property could be the key to a larger development parcel. \$135,000

MOST AFFORDABLE



51046 OLD MICHIGAN, VAN BUREN
A MOST AFFORDABLE 3 Bedroom 1 1/2 Bath Ranch. Newer Windows, Doors, Newer Furnace and Central Air. Over 1/2 Acre. More than 1,300 Square Feet. No VA or FHA Offers and Exclude all Appliances and Dishwasher. \$130,000

ROMULUS BARGAIN



6735 GLORIA, ROMULUS
3 BEDROOM BRICK RANCH with 1 Bath, Large Kitchen, Basement Needs to be Refinished, 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. Purchaser to assume Certificate of Occupancy requirements and Cash Only but priced To Sell at \$89,500

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